

The Nashville Globe.

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TO THE PUBLIC.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of THE NASHVILLE GLOBE will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the management.

Send correspondence for publication so as to reach the office Monday. No matter intended for current issue which arrives as late as Thursday can appear in that number, as Thursday is press day.

All news matter sent us for publication must be written only on one side of the paper, and should be accompanied by the name of the contributor; not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith.

A FAD.

Movements for the improvement of conditions under which the Negroes of certain portions of the United States are compelled to live seem to be a fad. There are leagues, councils, movements, brotherhoods and other organizations almost innumerable, all dedicated to the purpose of improving our race mentally, morally or financially and to securing for our race those rights guaranteed under the Constitution of the United States. Not content with the work of all these secular organizations, some of the members of our race are so earnest in their fight for our civil rights that they would even make a lever of our religious bodies to obtain the desired ends. The race is weighted down with sterile national organizations, yet the end of their formation is not in sight.

But last week, the Rev. Dr. Allen Allensworth, until recently a chaplain in the United States Army, issued a call from Los Angeles, Cal., for a meeting at which certain phases of the so-called Negro Problem will be discussed and, if found advisable, plans made for the segregation of our race in some one portion of the United States where we would be free from "Jim Crowism," and disfranchisement.

Without entering into a discussion of the merits of the plans or the subjects mentioned by Dr. Allensworth for discussion, we are constrained to ask have we not sufficient national organizations with practically the same avowed purposes as those announced in the call? It would seem to us that either the Niagara Movement or the Afro-American League might very properly discuss the questions outlined in the call if Dr. Allensworth, as a member, would bring them up for consideration. This would at least save the formation of another organization.

Most if not all of these movements, leagues and other organizations of a like character, national in scope, are forces from which no tangible results are obtained. They have high ideals but fail to accomplish anything. The main defect with most of them is that though they are planned on democratic lines they are really aristocratic in their workings. For example, take the most successful secular Negro organization in the country—excluding, of course, the secret organizations—the National Negro Business League, and it is evident to the most casual observer that much of the good that the body attempts is neutralized by the fact that so little stress is placed upon the local organization. Here in Nashville the local organization is dormant. It has been asleep so long that one is almost justified in saying that it is dead. Yet, when the time for the national meeting comes, Nashville is represented

resented and that, too, by able business men.

The men who organize these various national movements have high ideals, but it seems to us they put the stress at the wrong place. Instead of starting with local organizations where the common people of the various communities will be interested in the objects of the organization and a united effort of all the race can be made for a given purpose, they usually begin—and end—with a national meeting at which only the well-to-do can be present, and at which they represent only themselves. These various organizations are all good, but their primary work is not so much to call the attention of America to our condition as it is to awaken in the race itself a realization of our present standing. This can be accomplished only by local organizations. Until there are active local bodies to back up the pronouncement of the national meetings, these national meetings will not be worth, to the race as a whole, the amount of money paid out for transportation and for having a good time during the meetings.

SPREAD OF PROHIBITION.

The paramount political issue in the South at present is prohibition. The temperance wave is engulfing that portion of the country south of the Mason and Dixon line so completely as to almost give a new meaning to the solid South. Georgia goes dry on the first of next year; Kentucky, the first of all the whiskey producing states, sells spirituous liquors legally in less than a dozen counties; after the first of next month only three cities and one town, viz.: Nashville, Memphis, Chattanooga and LaFollette will license the saloon to do business in this state. Texas and most of the other Southern states have restrictive laws which have placed them in the same category with Tennessee. This week Jefferson County, Ala., in which is located Birmingham, one of the most progressive cities in the South, voted to abolish the saloon.

That prohibition has proved a success in the rural districts few will deny, but whether it is practical for the larger cities is a question upon which opinion varies. The experiment of removing liquor from the larger cities, such as those in Georgia, Knoxville in this state, and Birmingham in Alabama, will be watched with interest throughout the South. If these cities do not suffer commercially, it will be only a matter of time before the whole South will be dry.

A QUESTION OF VERACITY.

The Superintendent of Letter Carriers at the local post-office, commenting upon our criticism of the invidious distinction made in the placing of the colored carriers at the rear of the government employees in the parade in honor of President Roosevelt, says: "The Negroes participating in the parade took their positions without assignment at the rear of the line;" and further: "The carriers participating in the parade did so voluntarily." We have it from an authoritative source "that it was ordered particularly that the carriers should appear in clean uniforms." This raises a question of veracity between the Superintendent and the "authoritative source" which they may thresh out between themselves. We happen to know that other carriers coming late and taking their places at the rear of the line were ushered to positions where they would be in line with men of equal height, the superintendent to the contrary notwithstanding.

AN UNJUST MEASURE.

A bill introduced in the city council by Mr. Exghaus, of the Ninth Ward, to condemn certain property running from Broad to Grundy street, is an effort to accomplish the removal of a colored church from one of the main streets of the city, that should fail. There is no special need for a street at that particular place and the legislative branch of our city government should not be used to accomplish the private desires of a few individuals. The members of the church in question have struggled to pay for their property and it is unjust that the city

should now condemn it and open up a street for which there is no need. We hope the bill will be defeated, but even if it is passed we trust Mayor Brown, true to his declaration that he is to be the Mayor of every citizen, will veto the measure.

Complaint has been made to the Interstate Commerce Commission that the railroads discriminate against Hattiesburg, Miss. The Commission ought to give anyone a bonus who discriminates against that section of Mississippi.

The colored schools of Washington are forever and eternally in a broil over something. The latest racket is between W. Calvin Chase and Roscoe Conkling Bruce, the colored assistant superintendent. Politics as usual is the cause.

Mayor Brown speaks out like a man that intends to be his own boss and to be just to every man in the city. In his message to the city council he recommended some progressive legislation that is much needed.

Financial physicians disagree as to the cause of the flurry in Wall street, but every one agrees that the effects have been felt throughout the country. Its a mighty fine thing though to have money to worry about.

The new editor of the New York Age is Mr. "Freddie" Moore. Moore the pity that Timotheus Thomas Fortune got out.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Elijah P. Lovejoy, the Martyr.

To The Nashville Globe:

November the seventh will be the seventieth anniversary of the Martyrdom of Elijah P. Lovejoy, he whose life was immolated upon the altar of freedom, a sacrifice to pro-slavery hate. His was a noble and unselfish life dedicated to the noblest of causes—that of human liberty. Along with Frederick Douglass, Wendell Phillips, William Lloyd Garrison, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Whittier, the poet, and Henry Ward Beecher, the greatest divine America has ever produced, he set himself to the task of reaching and awakening the public conscience to the heinous crime of the centuries—slavery. He was not insensible to the personal danger to be incurred by his espousal of the cause of the downtrodden and oppressed black man. But, after counting up the cost, he felt that if by throwing his life into the scales it would help arouse the nation from its lethargy to the immensity of the evil of slavery and would ultimately result in the liberation of his suffering brother in black, he resolved that the sacrifice would not be too great. That he paid the price exacted of him for his defense of the helpless is history, glorious, immortal history, sacred to every black man throughout this country, and will be to the last syllable of time. The names of such martyrs as Attucks, Lovejoy and John Brown will live through all time, the emblazoned exponent of the highest, truest and noblest motive that ever stirred or actuated the human heart.

These men were more than mere heroes as is implied by the common acceptance of that term, for by chance or accident men are sometimes lifted into the limelight as heroes, without any previous knowledge of what is about to transpire in which they are to take such part as to merit the honored appellation and the admiration of their fellowmen; but it was otherwise with these men, they were martyrs in the truest, best sense. They pondered well the task before they attempted its accomplishment; but once their minds were made up, they pushed onward with will and determination toward working out the desire of their souls till death cut short their efforts.

Pardon the digression. The thought of this communication is intended to touch upon the duty owed by the people who once were slaves of commemorating the martyrdom of the man whose services and death did so much to open the eyes of the nation and to point out the stealthily creeping giant who would eventually throttle that greatest human pronouncement: "That all men are created equal; that they are endowed with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." It is a fact that the people should not let the names of such men die. They are the richest of heritages and should be transmitted from generation to generation. The lives and sacrifices of such men should furnish the loftiest of incentives to the living. It is a fact of history that some of the greatest battles of the

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world, for the good of mankind, have been fought out by the mind, resulting in victories no less renowned than those of war.

Some expression of appreciation for the sacrifice made by Elijah P. Lovejoy seventy years ago should be made by our people on November 7.

JADECEE.

Honor to Whom Honor is Due.

Editor of The Globe:

Please allow me space in your paper to say a few words in regard to Pleasant Green Baptist Church.

The writer has for the last five years carefully watched the manner in which Rev. Mr. Fields, of the Pleasant Green Baptist Church, has taken hold of his work. He has already gone beyond our expectation. The church has marched on with a steady step. Her spiritual, moral and financial condition is better now than it has been since the days of Rev. Wm. Haynes. Rev. Field is truly a shepherd; he loves his church and proves his love by his care for them. Not only does he care for and love his church, but he takes great interest in the community and has the esteem of North Nashville. There has been a radical change in our community since he took charge of that church. The standard of Christian living has been lifted—the spiritual tone of the church is even changed and this change is noticeable and this change is noticeable to the visitor. A marked change in the manner of services bespeaks the wisdom of this worthy divine. Services are conducted with some system and regularity. We believe that the Holy Spirit sent Rev. Mr. Field to be the shepherd of this church. He has done a most excellent work—a work that the public does not know—only one who is of this community can fully understand and appreciate the good done by him.

The church is entirely out of debt and plans are laid for the renovation and painting of the church next spring. We feel that other people should know a little of this good man's deeds and life as a true shepherd. May the Lord bless him and his church.

A FRIEND.

PARLOR CONCERT.

Miss Mattie F. Mathews, teacher of the Verdi Kindergarten at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, corner Gay

street and Eighth avenue, North, had a parlor concert, participated in by the little ones of the school on last Monday night, at her residence, No. 440 Eighth avenue, North. A good-sized audience, composed of parents, relatives and friends, was present to witness the exercises, which were entertainingly rendered. At the conclusion of the program several friends of the school made short addresses complimentary to the teacher and children, and encouraged them in their good work. This little school is worthy of consideration, and parents would do well to send their little ones to the Verdi Kindergarten—it will be a great help to them.

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